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Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Sylvester Ekundayo **Rowe** (Sierra Leone)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 55/39 of 20 November 2000.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 2nd meeting, on 4 October 2001, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 64 to 84, which was held at the 3rd to 11th meetings, from 8 to 12 and from 15 to 17 October (see A/C.1/56/PV.3-17). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, at the 12th to 17th meetings, from 22 to 24 and on 26, 29 and 30 October (see A/C.1/56/PV.12-17). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 18th to 24th meetings, on 30 and 31 October and on 2, 5 and 6 November (see A/C.1/56/PV.18-24).

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.17

5. At the 12th meeting, on 22 October, the representative of Mexico, on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil,

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Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)" (A/C.1/56/L.17).

6. At its 18th meeting, on 30 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/56/L.17 without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in its resolution 1911 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, it expressed the hope that the States of Latin America would take appropriate measures to conclude a treaty that would prohibit nuclear weapons in Latin America,

Recalling also that, in the same resolution, it voiced its confidence that, once such a treaty was concluded, all States, and in particular the nuclear-weapon States, would lend it their full cooperation for the effective realization of its peaceful aims,

Considering that, in its resolution 2028 (XX) of 19 November 1965, it established the principle of an acceptable balance of mutual responsibilities and obligations between nuclear-weapon States and those that do not possess such weapons,

Recalling that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[1] was opened for signature at Mexico City on 14 February 1967,

Noting with satisfaction the holding on 14 February 1997 of the eleventh special session of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco,

Recalling that, in its preamble, the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that military denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 2286 (XXII) of 5 December 1967, it welcomes with special satisfaction the Treaty of Tlatelolco as an event of historic

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security,

Recalling further that in 1990, 1991 and 1992 the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean approved and opened for signature a set of amendments[2] to the Treaty of Tlatelolco,[1] with the aim of enabling the full entry into force of that instrument,

Recalling resolution C/E/RES.27 of the Council of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean,[3] in which the Council called for the promotion of cooperation and consultations with other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Noting with satisfaction that the Treaty of Tlatelolco is now in force for thirty-two sovereign States of the region,

Also noting with satisfaction that the amended Treaty of Tlatelolco is fully in force for Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela,

1. *Welcomes* the concrete steps taken by some countries of the region during recent years for the consolidation of the regime of military denuclearization established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco);[1]

2. *Urges* the countries of the region that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco approved by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in its resolutions 267 (E-V), 268 (XII) and 290 (E-VII);

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)".

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[2] A/47/467, annex.

[3] See CD/1392.